



LARC



Volume 48, Number 10

October 2008

Gulf Coast Receives a “Double-Whami”

2008 seems to be a bad year for residents along the Gulf Coast, receiving two major hurricanes. First Hurricane Gustav, was the seventh tropical cyclone, fourth costliest, third hurricane and second major hurricane of the 2008 Atlantic hurricane season. On September 1 at 9:30 a.m. CDT (1430 UTC) the center of Gustav made landfall in the United States along the Louisiana coast near Cocodrie as a strong Category 2 hurricane - 1 mph below Category 3 - and dropped to Category 1 four hours later, and to a tropical depression the following day. Gustav continued moving northwest through Louisiana, before slowing down significantly as it moved through Arkansas on September 3.

Then again Hurricane Ike was the ninth named storm, and fifth hurricane of the 2008 Atlantic hurricane season, hit U.S. landfall at Galveston, Texas, on September 13 at 2:10 am CDT (07:10 UTC), as a Category 2 hurricane with winds of 110 mph (160 km/h) and a central pressure of 952 mbar. The 2 am NHC advisory cited tropical storm and hurricane force winds extending 275 miles (445 km) and 120 miles (190 km), respectively, from the center. During the day of September 13, Ike began a slow turn to the north and then northeast. After losing strength to Tropical Storm force winds, it passed near Houston; 100 miles to the east of Dallas, Texas; and west of Little Rock, Arkansas. It became a Tropical Depression and continued northeast, passing near St. Louis, Missouri. It brought heavy rainfall all along its path, but moved more quickly the farther north it went.

The storm surge ahead of Ike blew onshore onto the coast of Louisiana well ahead of Ike's predicted landfall in Texas on September 13. Areas in coastal south-central and southwestern Louisiana, some of which were flooded by Gustav, were re-flooded as a result of Ike. Some areas which had not yet recovered from Gustav power outages received additional outages, to the tune of 200,000. The hardest-hit areas were in and around Cameron Parish, which also sustained catastrophic damage in 2005 from Hurricane Rita and in 1957 from Hurricane Audrey. Nearly every square inch of the coastline in that area was flooded heavily once again, with floodwaters reaching as far north as Lake Charles. Hundreds of people had to be rescued.

Lessons were learned from Hurricane Katrina in 2005 as one of the most costliest and the fifth deadliest in history. When the word “evacuate” went out for Gustav and Ike, most people in the low lying target areas heeded the warning and moved out!

HF amateur nets were set into motion to handle emergency, priority, health & welfare traffic. Many of the Emergency Operation Centers were manned with ARES members to help with this traffic. If you happened to check in or listened into these nets you cannot help to admire to hear them in action. They did a “GREAT” job!

Since Katrina, improvements in communications have been “beefed” up in all fields including amateur radio, which is our main concern. Most of the hospitals in the Acadiana area are now equipped with VHF amateur transceivers.

Members of the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. took part in helping with communications on a local level in the Acadiana area. For Gustav, Ed Roy WA5TNK, Dags Whittemore KE5CGN and Herman Campbell KN5GRK operated from the Lafayette Parish EOC with John Martin KA5BSE operating from his QTH, handling most of the VHF traffic.

The AARA Monday Night 2 meter net took place at 7:00 pm during Gustav with 25 stations checking in with KN5GRK as NCS.

During Ike, Ed Roy WA5TNK and Herman Campbell KN5GRK operated from the Lafayette Parish EOC from 6:30 am until 9:00 pm on September 13.

Editor's Note

I am sending out the newsletter a little early. The on-line copies will be on time, however the hard copies that I normally mail out before the meeting will be a few days late.

I will be in Little Rock from September 23 to September 29 to attend my high school 50th reunion.

I graduated from Little Rock Central High in 1958. I obtained my Novice License in 1956 while a member of their Amateur Radio Club W5RFS.

Some of you may remember what happened during 1957-1958 at this school. It is the only High School in the National Historical Register. In 1997 the National Park Service opened the Central High Museum and Visitor Center across the street. Check out the website:

<http://lrchs-hall.com/>

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday October 2nd @ 7:00 PM
Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.
VE Testing @ 6:00 pm - Door Prizes - Refreshments

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

CLARC Hamfest, Pineville, LA
October 11th, 2008

Local 2-Meter Nets

Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA

Monday

AARA Net 7:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA
Acadia Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
147.240 pl 127.3 Crowley, LA

Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM
145.370 - 600 PL 103.5
YL/XYL / Filly Net 7:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA

Wednesday

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
147.060 Abbeville, LA

Friday

HEAL Net 1st & 3rd Fridays Only 1:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2008-2009

President - Charlie Morrison KI5XP
ki5xp@w5ddl.org

Vice Pres - Dick Melcher WA6MDI

Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ

Treasurer - Joy Breau N5YCS

BOARD MEMBERS

John Martin KA5BSE

Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF

Glenn Breau KD5NVC

Public Relations Officer

Dagmar Whittemore KE5CGN

Newsletter Editor

Herman Campbell KN5GRK

The **LARC** is published monthly by the:
Acadiana Amateur Radio Association
P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

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each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
American Red Cross Building
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

Break-in Alert

The morning of September 15th, between 0300 CDT and 0630 CDT, the sites of the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. W5EXI 147.040 repeater and the KRVS-FM radio site were broken into. The location is off Gazette Road, north of Duson, Louisiana.

Dick Melcher WA6MDI (AARA member) had kerchunked the repeater at 0300 and it responded, later at 0630, it did not respond. Dick went out to investigate at 1030 to see what had happened to the repeater. Upon arriving, he found that the lock on the gate and building missing. Closer examination found that the coax and hard line for the KRVS-FM standby station as well as the copper pipe for the air conditioner and a 4 KW generator were missing.

KRVS-FM was notified and immediately came out along with the Lafayette Parish Sheriff Office to make a investigation and found other missing items included 300 feet of 3 inch hard line, 300 feet of 7/8 hard line, 1000 feet of RG8 coax, 1000 feet of RG6 coax, and 22000 feet of RG58 coax.

AARA was lucky as all we lost was approximately 30 feet of 7/8 inch hard line.

Dick with the help of Doug Espy KE4GQE (also AARA member), was able to get a salvaged piece of the old hard-line, removed the connector and was able to stub it into the remaining piece of our hard-line along with a piece of LMR 400 to make a connection from the hard-line to the duplexer.

The pictures show the stub of the 7/8 inch hard line and also the inside shots show the repeater and the new UPS. We were lucky that we did not lose these and the duplexers. So the bad news is we were off the air, and the good news is we are back on the air with a minimum loss and back after less than 12 hours.

The AARA would like to thank Dick and Doug for time spent in getting the 147.040 back up and running with minimum time loss. John Martin KA5BSE also had a hand in helping out.

Apparently this is the second time recently that a similar break-in happened to another site, this one included a FBI repeater and it appears that some one was hurt in the process while trying to remove copper from a "live" circuit (blood left at the site).

Please be on the lookout for anyone that might try to fence any of these stolen items and alert the authorities if you suspect anyone.



Candidate for Delta Division Director—Karl Bullock WA5TMC

Greetings!

As you may know, there is an election for the position of Delta Division Director this year. I am Karl Bullock, WA5TMC, Delta Division Vice-Director, and I am running for Director. I want to ask you for your vote and your support. The obvious question is "Why vote for you"? Thanks for asking! Here are just some of the reasons.

* As your current Vice-Director, I have worked very well with your current Director, Henry WD4Q, who has kept me fully informed of the issues the ARRL is facing, as well as issues that we may be facing in the future.

* As Vice-Director, I have not only attended each Board Meeting, but have participated in several assignments, as well as in strategic planning.

* My contact with other Board members and staff has allowed me to forge the relationships necessary to effectively represent the Delta Division in the Board Room. It takes 8 votes to pass any measure, and I have earned the respect of other members of the Board that will make my vote and position count.

* I have made it my mission to listen to the Membership at Hamfest forums, Club meetings, and in private contacts. I realize it is my job to represent you, the Membership, and not carry a personal agenda into the Board process.

* As an experienced ham for 41 years, and a League member for 40 years, I have not only held several positions in the League's field organization, but have actively participated in all facets of Amateur Radio. This well-rounded experience gives me perspective on every issue that might come up.

* I have served as a member of the National Emergency Response Planning Committee (NERPC), the Background Check and Credentialing Committee, and I am now Chairman of the ARRL's Technology Task Force.

You can see this and other information on our website at:
<http://www.team4delta.org>.

So what issues do I feel are important to the Membership?

* Open deliberations. It is vital that the deliberations of the Directors be above suspicion, and that the reasons for Board actions be clearly spelled out. There is room for improvement here, and I'll work to make sure each issue is fully discussed and honestly decided.

* Communications. In this era of instant communications, the League also has room for improvement in letting the Membership know when issues pop up, and what the League management is doing about it. Additionally, I will utilize the latest tools in the Division to bring easier participation for individual members into the decision-making process. I will hold regular meetings with other Division officials (SM, SEC, Asst. Directors, and the Vice-Director) to ensure that all points of view are presented, and that issues important to Delta members are understood.

* Growth. I am already working with others on ways to bring new, younger hams into the hobby, and I will work with other Directors to make this a major priority. Additionally, an organization is only as effective as its membership, so I will also work to increase membership in the League, and the value of that membership.

* Advocacy. The League has done a good job in the last two years setting up a national "Grassroots" system for contacting every member of Congress on issues important to Amateurs. My XYL, Amy N5TBB, is the Division Legislative Action Chairman. I will work with her and others to strengthen this program as a new Congress and a new President take office in January.

* Positive Leadership. There's entirely too much contention in the ranks of our hobby these days, and I will look for solutions rather than blame, and listen to points of view that I may even initially disagree with. Ham Radio is a "big tent". There's room for everyone, and I'll work to make positive changes as they become necessary. I will stand firm on principles important to you, but do so in a way that fosters cooperation rather than confrontation.

* My job is to represent you. I can and will do so effectively, and continue the integrity and effectiveness that our current Director has displayed in Newington.

(continued on page 4)

CENTRAL LOUISIANA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ANNUAL HAMFEST

Date: Saturday October 11, 2008
Location: Pineville Community Center, 708 Main St., Pineville, LA
Time: 7:00 AM
Talk-in: 147.330+ PL-173.8
Forums: ARRL/ARES and others.

Grand Prizes:

1st: Icom IC-718
2nd: Icom V-8
3rd: \$500.00 cash
(need not be present for above prizes)
4th: "Surprise Box with a Ham" (must be present for this prize)

Drawing at 1:00 PM

VE Testing at 9:00 AM

Main Vendors

Houston Amateur Radio
Palmetto Antennas

Contact:

Charles Standlee AC5PW
ac5pw10@yahoo.com



THANKS

The AARA would like to show our appreciation to the following businesses for helping with the expenses of producing our club newsletter "LARC".

Gulf South Printing & Specialties for furnishing paper and label materials used in printing this newsletter.

Global Technologies Group for the use of their copy machine to reproduce our 25 hard copies each month.

Karl Bullock WA5TMC - (continued from page 3)**Finally, here's a bit about my background:**

I am 55 years old, and President of Bullock & Associates, a telecommunications consulting firm specializing in voice/video/data communications, primarily fiber-to-the-premises. After college I started a career in sales and management, managing several businesses and business units for 15 years from small private enterprises to Fortune-500 companies. In 1986 I started a software development company that I operated for 6 years until I received an offer from one of my clients I just couldn't turn down. I managed his business (an accounting firm specializing in transportation) until 1997. In 1996, along with other investors, I started what we thought would be a small Internet Service Provider, and because of the growth, in 1998 I left my then-current employer to become the CEO of the ISP. When I left that company in 2002 to begin my current enterprise, it was one of the largest ISPs in the Mid South, and included a telephone company, and a fiber company.

I became a ham in 1967 at the age of 14, immediately joined the ARRL, and in the early 70's I became a life member. Along the way I started the Mississippi Training and Traffice Net for Novices (it's now the Mississippi Slow Net). I've held the positions of ORS, OBS, NCS, RN5 Rep, OO, OOC, EC, DEC, and now Vice-Director. I hold Brass Pounder's League awards, including the brass medallion, and I've been a participant in multiple emergency communications deployments. I like homebrewing, Dxing (Yep, have the DXCC), contesting, public service activities, and just plain old rag chewing - and yes, I am a member of the Rag Chewer's Club. I've been club president, and helped organize our local club, the Tippah Amateur Radio Association. I'm active on all bands and modes from 160-432, and I try to get on the air several times a week.

As you can see, I'm well prepared to represent the Delta Division. I have the experience, especially with my hands-on business experience. I've worked with Boards in my own businesses, and I have the relationships in place to continue representing your views in the League Board room.

When the ballots arrive in late September/early October, I ask for your vote as your next Director for the Delta Division. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. My contact information is below.

Thanks, and 73!

Karl Bullock, WA5TMC
wa5tmc@team4delta.org
662 512-8053
321 County Road 458
Ripley, MS 38663

October 2008 Special Events & Contests

Oct 1-6	NA8SA - 50 th Anniversary of the beginning of NASA.
Oct 4-5	WB2MOT, KM0TO, W4MOT, K9MOT - Celebrating Motorola's 80 th Anniversary.
Oct 10	10-10 International Sprint Contest - 10 meters, phone, cw, digital.
Oct 11-12	W6PWT - Barney Oldfield Days -1913-1915 - Corona and Norco, CA.
Oct 18-19	W4D, N3G, K4Z, K3A, N4Z, N1C, K3G, N7Z, K7A, K9Z, W1D, K2JXW, W4C, W4B, N4V, K5K, K4C, W4Y, W6A, N7A, N2A, N5A - Celebrating US Coast Guard Auxiliary 69 th Anniversary.
Oct 18-19	K6BSA - 51 st Boy Scout Jamboree - San Ramon, CA.

This is just a few of the Special Events and Contests to list here, please check QST October 2008 pages 82, 90 and 91 for more info or ARRL website.



10/2	BRANDON	
10/4	GREG	K5LFT
10/6	SHANNON	KE5CKT
10/9	DONALD	KE5RPO
10/10	ASHTON	WE5WOW
10/10	HERMAN	KN5GRK
10/13	LEE	KX5T
10/20	DOUG	KE4GQE
10/22	JAMES	KE5SAD
10/27	DAGS	KE5CGN



Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

**Louis Wilbur Erath
W5BM - SK**

It is with great loss to the ham radio community at the loss of Louis Erath W5BM who became a Silent Key on September 8th, 2008.



Louis was 91 years young and lived in Abbeville, LA. Louis had a number of patents in the field of loud speakers and acoustics and was considered an expert in this field. He also was involved with numerous developments in the military and NASA.

He will be greatly missed by all that knew him.

Vermillion Parish EC Report

Although Hurricane Ike made landfall in the Galveston Texas, area effects of the storm surge made its way into low lying areas of Vermillion Parish, just as Rita did some 3 years ago. No water at my home but 6 miles south of here, most everyone was affected. My sister had 18.5 inches in her home, compared to 27 inches for Rita.

At this writing the water has receded enough to be able for most Forked Island residents to return home and begin the clean-up process. The Church in the picture is located South of Abbeville in the Esther area along with the home which is next door to KC5UGC Steve, and KC5VDK Debbie.

Arnold
KE5JXC
Vermillion Parish EC



CMA Volunteers Needed

SmartWater Presents the CMA Sashay and 5K Race In Conjunction with Boy Scout Troop 562

Join the CMA and Boy Scout Troop 562 on Saturday October 4, for a fun filled day of exercise, food and music provided by Grammy nominated artists The Pine Leaf Boys!

Amateur radio operators needed to man the amateur radio station at the museum or operate from the parking lot. No operators needed around the race course.



HEAL NET

Be sure to check in on the HEAL NET every 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at 1:00 PM local time on the 146.820 repeater in Lafayette. Larry KE5KJD is our Net Control Station at this time but will appreciate anyone wishing to help out as NCS on occasions.

September 2008 HEAL Net

DATE:	Medical Personnel	Guest	Medical Facilities	Time / Traffic
9/05/08	3	8	3	12 min/ 0
9/19/08	3	7	3	12 min/0

A Bird's Eye View

I spoke to Robert Long KF4UTF flying helicopters for Air Logistics on Wednesday evening around 1945 CDT as he was returning from making his fourth trip of the day bringing crews to what was left of the oil rigs. He reports that one of the larger rig no longer exists above the water. Other rigs, show only the piling where they used to be.

He reported that Inter-coastal City still had about 2 feet of water on the landing pad, and many areas along the Gulf Coast is still undulated at the time this article is being put together.

Robert can be heard on occasions on the 146.820 or the 147.040 EchoLink located in Lafayette. Sometimes you may hear him on the 146.520 simplex. Next time you hear him, jump in a say a few words.

Robert is 40 years old, employed by Air-Logistics and hails from Columbia, SC.



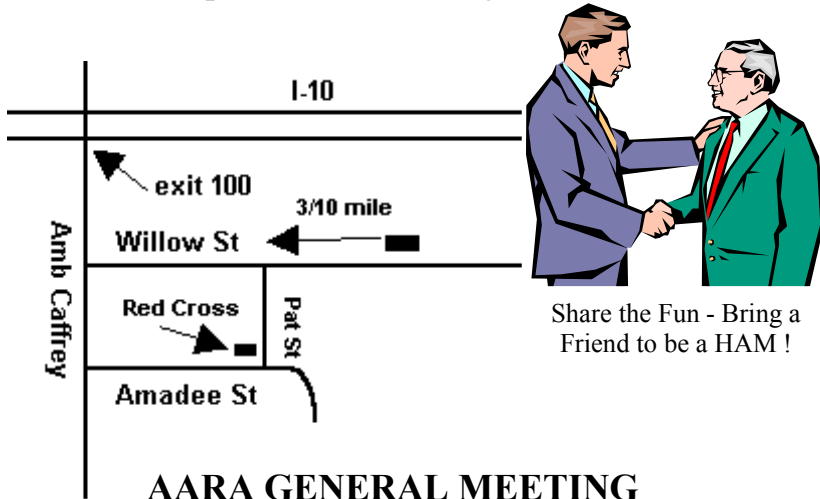
September 2008 VE Test Session Results

Due to the cancellation of the September General meeting of the AARA due to the Red Cross building being used for Red Cross hurricane business, the usual meeting test session had to be put on hold until the October 2nd meeting.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



Share the Fun - Bring a
Friend to be a HAM !

AARA GENERAL MEETING
Thursday October 2nd, 2008—7:00 PM
(see inside)
VE Testing at 6:00 PM
Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA
Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE

Halloween Monster Stew in a Pumpkin

(Reprinted from: AliciasRecipes.com.)

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1 medium-size pumpkin | 1 pound fresh mushrooms, sliced |
| 1-1/2 pounds beef stew meat | 1 green bell pepper, sliced |
| 1 package of baby carrots | 1 stalk celery, sliced |
| potatoes, diced small | 2 cans Campbell's Golden Mushroom Soup |
| 1 large onion, sliced | |

Cut the top off the pumpkin and remove insides. Set the pumpkin shell on a cookie sheet.

Combine remaining ingredients and put into pumpkin shell, and bake at 300 degrees F (on the cookie sheet).

Carry pumpkin to the table on the cookie sheet, or carefully remove it to a serving platter. Ladle stew from the shell.

Serve with French bread and a green salad.

Send your favorite recipe to:
Herman KN5GRK
kn5grk@bellsouth.net



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscomm@fcc.gov.
Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245